

LAWSHÉ (John Z.)

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virginica.



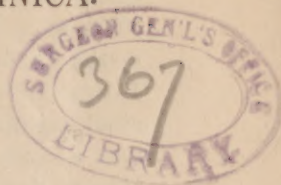


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PROVING OF CHIONANTHUS VIRGINICA.

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Thesis for Graduation. Class of 1883.



THIS being the *first and only* proving of this drug, Prof. Lilienthal requested a copy of it for publication, which I cheerfully agreed to give him.

CHIONANTHUS VIRGINICA, or as it is commonly called, "Fringe Tree" and "Daddy Gray Beard," belongs to the natural order Oleaceæ (olive family). It is a small tree, with oblong, entire, deciduous leaves, and delicate white flowers in slender axillary panicles, appearing with the leaves. It grows in light soil from Virginia to Florida, and blooms in April and May. Its average height is ten or twelve feet. The leaves are smooth or pubescent, narrowed into a petiole. Panicles longer than the leaves, leafy-bracted. The flowers are on slender drooping pedicles. I made my tincture from the bark of the fresh root, just after the tree had flowered, and let stand for six weeks before decanting.

Monday, July 10th, 1882, 9.30 A.M., I took one drop of the tincture, after having taken the 12x and 6x potencies, one day each, without any effect. I continued taking the tincture each hour during the day, increasing each dose *one* drop till *five* drops were reached, then increased each dose *five* drops till *twenty-five* drops were reached, but without any effect whatever.

Tuesday, July 11th.—I began with thirty drops at 9 o'clock A.M., and increased the dose *five* drops each hour till I reached *one drachm*, and took *three* doses of *one drachm* each. I retired at 10 o'clock, feeling perfectly well. I woke up at 4.10 A.M., Wednesday, July 12th, with a very severe headache—chiefly in the forehead and just over the eyes—especially the left eye. Eyeballs exceedingly painful, feel sore and bruised; cutting, twisting pains all through my abdomen. I turned over and lay with my face downward, which seemed to relieve the

abdominal pains some, and after a while I went to sleep. I woke up again at 8.20, feeling very sick and badly all over; head feels very sore all over and through it; heavy dull feeling in the forehead and a drawing or pressing at the root of my nose. I felt so weak I had to sit down awhile before I could finish dressing; *never* before felt so sick at my stomach. Bitter eructations, great nausea and retching, with a desire for stool. I finished dressing and looked at my tongue, which was heavily coated and of a dirty, greenish-yellow color. I started down stairs and had a very violent attack of nausea and a great deal of retching before I could vomit. It seemed as though there was a "*double suction*" in my abdomen, one trying to force something up and the other sucked it back, till finally, by quite an effort, I vomited a tea-cup full or more of *very dark green bile*, rather ropy, *I think*, and exceedingly bitter. The bile all came up with a single gush, and I was through. Immediately a cold perspiration broke out and stood in beads on my forehead, and I felt very weak. Desire for stool gone after vomiting. I have a sore, weak, bruised feeling all over the small of my back; feels *very* weak when standing or moving about; better sitting or lying down. No appetite for breakfast, but my stomach felt so weak and empty that I drank a cup of coffee and ate half a biscuit, which relieved to some extent. 9 A.M., am so nervous I cannot keep still, and can hardly write down my symptoms; 9.30 o'clock my back in the lumbar and sacral regions is so sore and weak I could hardly walk from the car to the office; every step seemed to jar my whole body and made my headache worse. 10 o'clock, have been quiet for half an hour and feel some better; have a pressing or squeezing sensation in the bridge of my nose; sore constricting feeling in the temples with throbbing temporal arteries. 10.30 o'clock, just came from stool; the first passed was watery; but the last was more solid in appearance; stool *terribly* offensive, like "*carrion*." Heavy, all-gone sort of feeling low down in the hypogastrium; color of stool was dark brown, with pieces of undigested food in it. 11.30 o'clock, just got home and feel very badly and weak. My head and back ache considerably, and I feel "played out" generally. 12 o'clock, my forehead and cheeks *very* hot and dry; radial pulse 114. Chilly sensations

darting through body from front to back, causing a sort of shivering or involuntary jerking; forehead feels like a hot coal of fire to my head; headache in forehead and over eyes relieved by pressing with my hand, but I cannot bear it long for my head seems to get hotter from it; am exceeding nervous, cannot lie still; involuntary jerkings in different parts of body. Roof of mouth and tongue feel very dry, although there seems to be the usual amount of saliva present. No thirst at all. I went to sleep about 12.20 P.M., and was awakened at 2 o'clock for dinner. Couldn't eat anything; I tried, but it nauseated me; could only drink a cup of coffee; headache worse after waking; pulse, 88; head not quite so hot; body feels chilly, and I had a shawl thrown over me; went to sleep again about 3.30 o'clock. I was told that, at 4.15, my head and face were covered with a profuse perspiration, and my carotid arteries pulsated very hard and rapidly; I got up at 5 o'clock and bathed my face in cold water, and felt some better, though my head and back ache considerably and feel quite sore; eye-balls feel bruised. 6.30 o'clock, weak, empty feeling about stomach, which was relieved for a while by eating some crackers and drinking a cup of coffee: pulse still 88. At 8.15 had an action from my bowels; during stool, griping and cutting pains in abdomen, about and below umbilicus; stool thin, watery, blackish-brown color, and very offensive. I retired at 9.30, and had to have extra covering thrown upon me; I was so chilly while my room-mate lay without any covering at all. My head feels sore and bruised all over, and the small of my back is exceedingly weak and feels, when I touch it with my hand, as though the skin was all off.

Thursday, July 13th—I was very nervous and restless last night after going to bed; didn't go to sleep till after 12 o'clock, and woke up several times before daylight, with pains in my head, abdomen and back; got up at 8 o'clock this morning, my head feeling sore and bruised; the bruised feeling seems to go way into my brain now; every time I move, cough or laugh, it seems as if my head would split open and fly in every direction; my *back* is not so painful this morning; I couldn't eat much breakfast; stool this morning was quite copious, watery, *dark* brown, and not so offensive as yesterday. 9.30 A.M., headache better; several times this morning I have had

attacks of cutting or griping pains in my intestines, in and about the umbilical region; my tongue is very heavily coated in the centre with a thick, yellowish fur; the tip is light red, and on each side of the tip there are several little places that look as though blood was about to ooze forth from; my tongue feels drawn and shriveled up in the centre. 4.30 P.M. The only symptom this morning at 11 o'clock, is a dull, sore, aching feeling in the umbilical and iliac regions, occasionally changing for just a minute or so, to a severe griping, which is relieved some by the emission of flatus. My face has a yellowish appearance; from the outer to the inner canthus, there is a reddish-yellow streak about one-quarter of an inch wide in the whites of both eyes; the blood-vessels of the sclerotic coat are very much enlarged and distinctly visible.

Friday, July 14th.—I suffered considerably after 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon and last night, with the pains in my abdomen, and they are more severe this morning than yesterday; it feels just like a string tied in a "slip-knot" around my intestines in the umbilical region, and every once in a while it was *suddenly* drawn tight for a minute or so, and then *gradually* loosened; stool this morning was very thin, watery and rather flaky; the flaky portion was dark yellow, the fluid portion *dark green*, with a *light green* foam or froth on top, streaked with a white, mucus-looking substance; flatus and feces passed together; some pain in my bowels during stool, and a hot, scalded sensation in anus, which lasted fifteen or twenty minutes after stool; during stool a cold perspiration broke out on my forehead and the back of my hands; took quite a while to pass stool, and then only a small quantity passed; eye-balls feel bruised and the whites have a yellowish cast all over, though the "bands" are still very distinct; my skin is quite yellow to-day, and I feel very much fatigued generally.

Saturday, July 15th.—Stool about natural this morning; same feeling in my abdomen, though not so severe; no new symptoms.

Sunday, July 16th.—The only thing unusual which I noticed to-day, was the passage of considerable offensive flatus; a greater quantity after retiring than during the day.

I noticed no more symptoms after Sunday night.

